WINTER 1966

ALUMNI BULLETIN

A TRIBUTE

DR. MELVIN B. DUNBAR
President-Elect, A.O.A.

Our Alumni news could hardly be dedicated to a more appropriate Optometric figure than Dr. Melvin B. Dunbar, O.D., D.O.S., President-elect of the American Optometric Association. Dr. "Cousin Mel" is an alumnus of Massachusetts College of Optometry graduating in 1931 and thereafter returning to the line of graduates in 1961 to receive the honorary degree of Doctor of Ocular Science from his Alma Mater.

Dr. Dunbar has long been a supporter of MCO and professional Optometry in general. His history of elected Optometric offices dates back to his presidency of the POS fraternity while a student at MCO. After graduation, Dr. Dunbar moved to Manchester, N.H. and then to Lebanon, N.H. to become N.H. Optometric Assoc. secretary for eight years and then President. His other credits are more numerous than space allows. But to pick a few of the highlights, he lists membership in The New England Council of Optometrists, Better Vision Institute, and Fellow of The American Academy of Optometry. His extra-curricular activities include memberships and official status in Masonic bodies, the Lion's Club, and local town politics.

Dr. Dunbar brings a broad base of the usual experiences to his post as head of our professional society; and perhaps a bit of the unusual.

The background as a husband, father (two daughters) grandfather, and Optometrist are the expected or the usual. The unusual is the theatre experience that marks his speaking appearances as a bit other than ordinary. This is the man who in the year starting June 1966 will be representing Optometry at numerous meetings and conferences. Dr. Dunbar's ability in this respect has been called everything from "stage presence" to "sheer magic". All of us who have had the opportunity to meet with Dr. Dunbar in person or have heard him speak, certainly feel great pride to know that a man such as he becomes President of the American Optometric Association at the 1966 Spring Congress here in Boston.

As constituents and alumni we all should feel a double bond in offering congratulations and pledging our support individually and as a group to his term of office.

PLAN TO ATTEND!

ANNUAL ALUMNI LUNCHEON

SUNDAY, MARCH 13, 1966, 12 NOON
BAY STATE ROOM, STATLER HILTON
BOSTON

SEND YOUR RESERVATION NOW!

THE COLLEGE CURRENT
by Frank Kozol

The Massachusetts College of Optometry has recently acquired an AO Bio-Microscope. This Bio-Microscope along with the others at the clinic will serve for teaching purposes, as well as clinical application.

Mr. Alan Klibanoff, President of the Student Forum, reports that in November, Dr. Francis Murdy, chairman of the Department of Legal and Legislative Affairs of the Massachusetts Society of Optometrists, and Dr. John E. Quinn, secretary of the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Optometry, were guest speakers at the first Forum Meeting. A presentation of current Massachusetts legislation, and the problem involved in introducing legislation was made by Dr. Murdy, followed by a discussion of the Optometry Board procedures by Dr. Quinn.

On December 1, Dean Kamens spoke on Optometric Education, with emphasis on the new 2/4 year program to be initiated at Massachusetts College of Optometry this coming September.

Mr. Ronald M. Millman, secretary of the class of 1967, stated that the Junior Class is now engaged in the following activities:

1. Formation of Visual Screening Study

In order to aid local high schools in the area as well as to enhance our optometric testing skills, the class of 1967 has initiated plans for a visual screening project. Working closely with Dean Kamens, it is hoped that the actual work will take place during the months of March and April.

2. "Eye Ball."

Under the direction of Paul Weisberg, 67', plans for the 1966 Eyeball are well underway. The big night is March 2, 1966 (Saturday) and the dinner-dance will be held at the Sidney Hill Country Club in Newton, Mass. According to Paul, there will be a few surprises at this year's affair. The Junior Class has put a lot of work into this project and is looking forward to a large turnout from both the faculty and students.

3. Absorptive Lens Project

A project concerning the properties and qualities of absorptive lenses is required as part of the third year Geometic Optics course. Information was compiled from the major optical companies by the class and each student prepared his own paper on this subject.

ALUMNI VISIT RETINA FOUNDATION
by Victor Gallo

A unique business and educational session marked the winter meeting of the Alumni Association at the Retina Foundation Institute, Boston on Jan. 26.

Following a brief business meeting, Dr. Charles L. Schepens, an emminent opthalmologist, was introduced to the group to explain the origins, purposes, and workings of the Foundation.

Although founded in 1950 as a Trust Foundation, it was rechartered in 1954 as a charitable corporation for the purpose of conducting retinal research. Since then it has expanded to include departments for corneal, muscular, connective tissue, and bidenergetic research as well.

Dr. Schepens took his medical degree from the University of Ghent, in Belgium, in 1935, and then studied ophthalomology at the Moorefield Eye Hospital in London, England. He came to the United States in 1947 and since then has received high appointments in the School of Medicine of Harvard University, the staff of the Massachusetts General Hospital, and is Chief of the Retinal Service (Clinic) at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary. He is also a member of Retina Associates, and was the founder of the Retinal Foundation.

He noted that the Retina Foundation is devoted exclusively to research, while the Retina Associates is an association of practicing ophthalmologists engaged in clinical work on retinal problems.

Further understanding of the work done by the Foundation becomes evident after considering a partial list of its sources of support: the United States Government via research grants thru the United States Public Health Service, the National Science Foundation, the Atomic Energy Commission, the Army and Air Force, the John Hartford Foundation, and the Massachusetts Lions Clubs.

At the conclusion of Dr. Schepens background talk, the group broke up into smaller units and made a tour of the facilities. This tour included the Department of Retina Research where the instrument shop and physics laboratory were of special interest because of the relatively exotic instrumentation i.e. photocoagulators, and electro retinographic and oculographic devices for studying retinal sensitivity.

EXTENSIVE REDECORATION AT MCO CLINIC; SIX UNITS ADDED CREATING MODERN FACILITY

by Joan Exford

An extensive redecorating project, undertaken last summer, has transformed the Clinic of the Massachusetts College of Optometry into a bright modern building with a truly professional appearance.

Accompanying progressive changes in the academic curriculum of the College, the project included the additions of much new equipment to the Clinic.

Painting the walls and ceilings throughout the building and placing new asphalt tiling in many rooms considerably brightened the appearance of the Clinic. Fluorescent fixtures replaced the dated incandescent structures, modern furnishings helped to up-date the appearance of the reception room. From a gift of money from the Class of 1965, a Ladies Room is being furnished.

The purchase of six American Optical Company 590 phoropters, six stands, chairs, projectors, and ophthalmometers increased the number of complete refracting units to twelve. This amount doubles the number of patients who can be accommodated at one time.

As a continuing policy, American Optical and Bausch and Lomb Optical Companies have each furnished a refracting room with their latest units, including slit lamps.

The minimum requirement for complete refractions for each senior has been raised to seventy-five this year. Thirty senior students attempting to fulfill this requirement keep the Clinic busy at most times. Optometry Practice sessions for sophomores, juniors and seniors, which meet at various times during the week, add to the activity of the Clinic.

Sessions for the seniors include special testing procedures, such as tonometry, visual field analysis, eikonometry, and visual screening. The Sophomore and Junior Optometry Practice sessions involve application of the theories and procedures of refracting, which have been taught in Theoretical Optometry courses. With the additional phoropters, the sophomores and juniors no longer have to practice with phorometers and trial lenses.

Under the direction of Dr. Philip Friedman, the Orthoptics Clinic maintains a full schedule every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday afternoons.

Drs. Louis Bardfield and Sumner Kagan supervise a busy Contact Lens Clinic Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Juniors and seniors meet for contact lens laboratories, in which they learn insertion and removal techniques, modification of lenses, and fabrication of uncut lenses. Some Alumni would no longer recognize their old chemistry lab on the fourth floor of the Clinic, which has now been converted to a contact lens laboratory containing many modification units.

The first research project to be carried out at the Clinic is a tonometry study and is now getting underway with Dr. John Asarkoff as chairman of the committee.

Mr. Chanel Dufour has come to the Clinic as an Instructor of Mechanical Optics from Syracuse, New York, where he was manager of a Bausch and Lomb branch office. An experienced optician, he completes the laboratory work for the Clinic in between his M.O. sessions.

With the appointment of Dr. Hyman Kamens as Dean, Dr. Joseph Svagdys, an Instructor for many years, became Director of the Clinic. Dr. Joan Exford began a position as full-time Instructor at the Clinic in September. Drs. John Asarkoff, Alvan Bluhm, Jack Panjian and Jack Suggs assist as Instructors on a part-time basis.

Alumni are encouraged to visit the Clinic to see the up-dated facilities. Suggest a visit to the Clinic to fellow graduates who are not members of the Alumni Association. Perhaps by demonstrating the progress being made by the College, new members to the Alumni Association could be obtained.

We wish to call on the help of the Alumni in the procurement of patients for the students. We suggest they notify service clubs and charitable groups of the availability of the Clinic's services.

SPECIAL NOTE

Enclosed with this issue of the Bulletin is a registration form for the annual Alumni luncheon.

It is provided not only for your convenience, but also to aid the planning committee in their preparations.

Fill it out promptly return it to the alumni office. Also, don't forget to include your 1966 dues.

RECORD ATTENDANCE EXPECTED AT ANNUAL ALUMNI LUNCHEON

by Victor Gallo

During the 44th annual Congress of the Northeast Council of Optometrists, the alumni and friends of the Massachusetts College of Optometry will gather in the Bay State room of the Statler Hilton hotel in Boston at 12 noon Sunday, March 13th for the annual alumni luncheon.

Under the direction of Drs. Carrol Martus and Robert Shulman, co-chairman, alumni can be assured of a congenial "good-time" while they enjoy a menu featuring boneless chicken served in the inimitable Statler style.

During the luncheon, there will be a short refresher course on "Current Affairs" at the Mass. College of Optometry, and the presentation of the annual Alumni Recognition Award to a recipient whose name shall remain secret until the dining hour.

The class of 1941, under the chairmanship of Dr. Leo DiNatale, will celebrate its 25th anniversary in an appropriate manner. The classes of 1931, 1936, 1946, 1951, 1956, and 1961 will also receive special recognition.

Nearly 170 alumni attended the luncheon last year and it is hoped that this year will establish a new record attendance. With this thought in mind, your chairman strongly urges you to register in advance.

PLEASURE WITH RESPONSIBILITY

Have you done your share? Have you sent in your registration for the 1966 A.O.A. Convention to be held in June at the Sheraton-Boston?

As graduates of the college in Boston and more specifically members of the A.O.A. there is a dual responsibility to all alumni of M.C.O. Our first responsibility is that of a host--host to hundreds of our fellow colleagues across the country who will be in Boston to attend the sessions. They will appreciate a warm New England welcome in the good old Yankee tradition.

M.C.O. will also be a host, educationally speaking, and as alumni we must be ready to aid our Alma Mater in any way possible.

So plan now to attend and carry out your responsibility in seeking the pleasures of fellowship with your colleagues.

CLASS AGENTS CORNER

by John E. Callinan, Co-Chairman
Class Agents Committee

The following is a brief summary of the results of the Alumni Questionnaire which was circulated during the past year. Many of the questionnaires have yet to be returned. However of those in our possession, certain patterns are beginning to emerge.

For the most part, our Alumni are fairly well informed optometrically, but not too well abreast of current Alumni news. The Alumni Bulletin and the New England Journal of Optometry are the most informative as concerns the graduates.

Many Alumni have expressed concern over the seeming lack of interest in the Alumni Association and almost universally ask if something can be done to stimulate a more active membership. Some have suggested a greater number of Alumni functions encompassing a wider range of topics.

Some showed interest in the College itself as regards the present curriculum and faculty. They felt ill-informed on changes which have taken place recently. Changes such as the new six year training program the College will soon undertake, leading to graduation as Doctor of Optometry.

Many feel the recent graduate needs help in getting the proper start in this chosen field and wish to see more and longer internship programs. Also a state-wide placement committee to enable the new man to locate a practice for sale or to find those established practitioners who may wish an associate.

The majority of the graduates of the College who have lost contact with the Alumni Association have not done so willfully but due to many years of procrastination. If we have not yet contacted you please feel free to call us.

Below are the names of some lost classmates. If found please send addresses to the writer of this article at 24 Union Ave., Framingham, Mass.

Dr. Daniel E. Wial
Dr. Lawrence J. Ryan
Dr. Aaron Abrams
Dr. Bernard Rosen
Dr. Walter McCabe
Dr. James Newman
Dr. William Gilman
Dr. Leslie B. Stewart
Lt. Donald Robinson
Dr. Bruce Trevens
Dr. Jack Decker
Dr. George J. Wayne
Dr. Edward G. Trecartin

1965 YEARBOOK WINS FIRST PRIZE

The college yearbook, Reflections, 1965 has recently been cited for excellence in a national yearbook critique contest.

For the first time in the history of the college, the yearbook was entered in competition with other colleges in the thirty-first annual Critique contest sponsored by the Columbia Scholastic Press Association, affiliated with Columbia University.

The publication, published in September, was awarded a First Place certificate with 922 points out of a possible 1000 score. Entered in a category of specialty schools, the yearbook was singled out for excellence in theme, photography and special art.

In the evaluation booklet sent back to the school, the Board of Judges singled out the 20 page clinic section as being especially informative and interesting. Also given a high rating was the underclass section.

With the use of color, also for the first time, the yearbook staff was praised for its choice of full-color reproductions of an actual patient-clinician situation in both the American Optical and Bausch and Lomb Company units at the clinic.

The ninety-six page publication was supported entirely by students and advertisements and did not receive any financial backing from the school.

Serving on the Board of Editors were Drs. Glen A. Gulezian, Robert Miller, Phillip Sidran, and Jack Suggs, all of the class of 1965.

Dues Reminder

Dues are payable annually in March for a one year period.

Plan on paying your 1966 dues at the Convention luncheon.

$ 5.00	Regular Membership
10.00	Supporting Membership
15.00	Sponsoring Membership

PRESIDENT'S POTPOURRI

by Donald Horley

As you know the AOA National Convention is being held in Boston in June this year. Your Officers, Directors, and Advisors are in the process of discussing ideas and laying plans for an affair to be held in conjunction with the College at that time. No definite plans have been made, as yet, but we expect to come up with something very worthwhile.

The "Homecoming" that we held in conjunction with the New England Congress a couple of years ago was well attended and well received, perhaps we will do something of this nature; however, this tends to be expensive and we'll have to keep a close eye on our rather skimpy treasury.

Dean Kamens has expressed an interest in this area and we undoubtedly will work out the details in conjunction with the College Administration.

Our recent Alumni Association tour of the Clinic facilities was most heartening. An extensive amount of rebuilding, redecorating, and re-equipping of the Clinic had been done. We would like to have as many alumni who are here for the National meeting see these changes. Also prominent optometric educators from throughout the country will be here and we would like to assist in playing "host" to these men also.

The Alumni Association will hold its annual luncheon in conjunction with the AOA Convention as it has done for the past two years. This gives the alumni a chance to sit down and meet together over luncheon which is always pleasant. An appropriate program will be arranged for this affair, also.

The new student lounge is the most comfortable and relaxing room at M.C.O. At the recent Officers and Directors Meeting we held our meeting in this new lounge--very relaxing and very comfortable. Arnelda Levine and her committee are to be complimented on a job very well done.

All of us who toured the Massachusetts Optometric Clinic in Kenmore Square at the conclusion of our November business meeting were very impressed with the improved appearance, equipment, and efficiency of the Clinic. Among other projects being undertaken this year is a program of basic research to determine the reliability of tonometric readings taken on the sclera.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
1966 OFFICERS

At the winter business meeting of your Alumni Association the following officers were elected:

President - Alfred Hanson
First V.P. - Alton Lamont
Second V.P. - Paul Pelton
Treasurer - Robert Shulman
Rec. Sec. - Carroll Martus
Corr. Sec. - Morris Berman

Directors: Joseph Craven
Arnelda Levine
Nathan Aronson
Theodore Weisman
John Callinan
Glen Gulezian

Advisors: Foster Namias
Manuel Goldberg
Leo DiNatale
Robert Kraus
Raymond Ross
E. Albert Glickerman
G. Burtt Holmes
Donald Horley
Frank Kozol

178 Newbury Street
Boston, Mass.

Editorial Board:
Dr. Victor Gallo
Dr. Glen Gulezian
Dr. Alfred Hanson
Dr. Donald Horley
Dr. Calvin Perry

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